

BEAR LAKE News

Preservation Association

The Newsletter of the Bear Lake Preservation Association, Inc. • March 2009

Board of Directors Election Scheduled at Meeting on March 10, 2009

The 2009 election of the BLPA Board of Directors will take place at the General Meeting on March 10, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church.

You may also vote by mail. Use the ballot on this page and mail it in an envelope with your name and return address to Bear Lake Preservation Association, PO Box 162605, Altamonte Springs, FL 32716. Ballots must be post-marked no later than March 9, 2009.

After the ballots are in, all ballots, both absentee and those cast at the meeting, will be counted by a non-board member. There is only one vote per qualifying household (husband and wife owners may only vote once on the same ballot).

The BLPA would like to have as many interested, active Board members as possible (for a maximum of 11, minimum of 7) to share the respon-

sibility of maintaining the integrity of the association.

If you know of someone who would be willing to serve, including yourself, write his or her name in one of the write-in candidate spaces on the ballot and place a check mark in front of it.

The time commitment required of Board members is not substantial. (Homemakers and retirees make excellent board members.) Any questions about what is required, please call Corrie Hungerford at 407-947-2901.

If you are not already involved in the Bear Lake Preservation Association, and preserving the quality of our neighborhood and the Bear Lake watershed is important to you, please volunteer to help support the association. Remember that BLPA is only as strong as the support of its members.

BLPA Ballot

Place a check mark in front of your choices. (11 maximum or 7 minimum). Only one ballot per household:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Debbie Davenport | <input type="checkbox"/> George Helm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brian Allen | <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Houston |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bob Shields | <input type="checkbox"/> Corrie Hungerford |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shirley Haynes | |

Write-in Candidates:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Only one ballot is allowed per member family. Bring your ballot with you to the March 10, 2009, meeting (extra ballots will be available). If you choose to mail your ballot, it must be postmarked no later than March 9, 2009. Marked ballots which are mailed should not be signed, but should be placed in an envelope bearing your name and return address. Address your envelope to: Bear Lake Preservation Association, Inc., PO Box 162605, Altamonte Springs, FL 32716.

Any person may be elected to the Board. Candidates do not have to be BLPA members but you must be a paid member to vote. Write-ins may be yourself or any person you think would do a good job. All elections are for 2-year term.

Your Name: _____

BLPA thanks our Board Supporters:

Patsy Cumbie • Susan Burton • Erma Cardilli • Anne & Walt Juergensen • Ned Woolfolk
 Dick Dominica • Jan & Sandy Brown • Vicki & Marc Renner • Sue Parker
 Michael & Margaret Bundy • Holly Gosney • Nancy Dunn • Buddy Hutson • Jim Rawlings
 Anne Armistead • Tealea Fortune • Jay Goebel • Denise Fitzgerald • Judy Ihrig • Michelle Haynes

Prehistoric Fish or Bear Lake Resident?



An 18" Armored Walking Catfish was left on Nancy and Jim Dunn's dock recently by some frustrated otters who could not penetrate the armored coating and eat the fish. This fish scared Nancy as she had never seen one before...it looked like a prehistoric creature. The tough skin coating was amazing and we had no idea they were in Bear Lake. It was reported to the University of Florida for fish tracking data.



Construction Update

Bunnell Road and Eden Park Ave. will be widened to three lanes. Bunnell Road will be widened from Eden Park to West Town Parkway. The widening will give the roads a "Residential Look" with median landscaping. The intersection of Pearl Lake Causeway and Bunnell Road will be realigned to the east so that Pearl Lake will not dead end at the entrance of Country Creek.

Boat Parade Highlights

By Holly Gosney



Above: The Parker's are the winners of the Best Decorated Boat.



Right: There were some pretty elaborately decorated boat docks and floats on the lake! Thanks to all who participated.



Thank you to all who participated in this year's holiday boat parade on December 13th. We had a great turn out with 11 boats that lit up Bear Lake on a night that proved to be quite chilly. Several folks watched from their docks as we circled the lake in holiday cheer. The evening continued as parade participants and neighbors convened at Randy and Angie Crenmer's home for holiday spirits and ap-

petizers. The winners of this year's best decorated boat went to the Parker's for their beautifully decorated sailboat. The best decorated dock went to Nancy and Jim Dunn for their big holiday bear and lights.

Our Feathered "Sandy" Friend...

By Buddy Hutson



When she is standing in the water the wing sags. I fed her a few blue gills just to make sure she is

I got a close up look of the left wing of the heron this morning. "Sandy" is what I call her, and there is a hook embedded in the joint of the wing. She can fly and forage for herself but that wing may get an infection over time.

getting food. The algae is so thick that I don't know how they see through it to catch a fish.

Please be cautious perils of leaving rods and reels sticking up on docks that have hooks exposed. I know I see them around all the time. Birds can fly into them and get hooked. These herons even fly around the docks at night. Not sure this is the case for Sandy but it could be. Another reason not to leave them there is that UV and heat weakens the line and if they use them after several days exposure and hook a nice sized fish it will likely break off and oh don't we hate when that happens.

BLPA is applying for 501(c)(3) tax exemption status which, if granted, will make future donations to the alum and lakes management funds tax deductible for most people. We will keep you informed on the status of our application.



2008 Board of Directors

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- President.....Brian Allen
407-580-6979
- Vice PresidentBill Houston
407-721-0219
- Secretary.....Corrie Hungerford
407-947-2901
- TreasurerJim Maki
407-774-1128

Committees

- EcologyBill Houston
407-721-0219
- Lakewatch..... Nancy Dunn
407-295-6335
Jan Brown
407-295-6739
Margaret Bundy
407-523-1064
- Membership..... Anne Juergensen
407-925-5123
Janice Maki
407-774-1128
Susan Burton
407-521-8212
Judy Ihrig
407-292-4632
- NewsletterMichelle Haynes
407-682-2578
- SocialJudy Ihrig
407-292-4632
- PoliticalJim Maki
407-774-1128
Ned Woolfolk
407-292-5128
Mark Levitt
407-682-2578

Directors

- Judy Ihrig.....407-292-4632
- Bob Shields.....407-294-9093
- Buddy Hutson407-298-3681
- Shirley Haynes.....614-565-1819

Board Supporters

- Patsy Cumbie.....407-886-5588
- Susan Burton.....407-521-8212
- Erma Cardilli.....407-293-5227
- Anne Juergensen.....407-925-5123
- Ned Woolfolk407-292-5128
- Dick Dominica.....407-522-4402
- Jan Brown407-295-6739
- Vicki Jameson407-822-4202
- Sue Parker407-294-6026
- Margaret Bundy.....407-523-1064
- Walt Juergensen407-299-7147
- Janice & Jim Maki407-774-1128

Bob Heideman...My Best Friend

By Roy Zimmer



Catherine & Roy taking off on Bear Lake to spread Bob's ashes.

Our friendship started some 30 years ago when we were both starting out in business. Bob and I took many adventure trips over the years starting out with an ocean trip in a 22' open boat to the Bahamas and then two ocean trips to Haiti in the same boat. It had one outboard motor. I came to know who Bob really was during those trips as we encountered some very perilous moments, as you can well imagine. I realized that this guy was bullet proof; being calmer than anyone I had ever known in tense moments.

We then started flying Ultralight airplanes together and made many trips including originating from Bear Lake over the Caribbean and all the way to the Amazon. There was another trip following the Lewis and Clark route out west and over the Rocky Mountains. There were motorcycle trips in Europe and New Zealand all with the same adventurous spirit. I realized that there was no one else who I wanted to be with on these trips. My life was in Bob's hands many times and there is no one else I would have trusted. He was always the calming spirit which I needed on many occasions. Telling stories about all of these trips would take too much time, and you already know that he was a very capable, incredible guy. I think one thing that kind of sums up what kind of guy Bob was is the fact that he was a Navy Seal. If you knew Bob well, you may have found that he did not show his emotions much. Navy Seals cannot let their emotions get in the way of what they do. The dropout rate in Navy Seal School approaches

93%. To do what Navy Seals do takes more guts than most of us can even imagine having.

I spent many nights in far away places with Bob hearing stories about his years as a Seal. As you can guess, best friends tell their buddies things that no one else will ever know. When Bob left us, he took with him things about me that my wife Cindy will never know, and I know things about Bob that no one else will ever know.

Bob lived a full life with more experiences than most 10 people combined. There was one experience; however, that Bob never really had. It was one that I could not be a part of or give him. Bob always had a girlfriend being the man that he was, and guess who heard all the stories about his relationships on those long nights and long voyages over the ocean and in the air. You ladies have heard your husbands or male friends say the words "You are the only one," but there is always that little question in the back of your mind. Is he really telling the truth or is it just because he loves me and wants to make me feel special? Well, when Bob met his beautiful wife Catherine, I am sure he may have told her that she was the one and only real love of his

life. Knowing that he usually did have a woman in his life, she had to wonder. She certainly knew he loved her dearly, but was there ever another woman that he may have been in love with. I can now assure her that his words were true. I know that only Catherine gave him the one experience that he lacked in his life. That was the experience of being so deeply in love. There was no other woman in his life who stole his heart like Catherine did. And I thank her for giving my best friend what no one else ever could. So, you see, my story was not about his adventures. It is a story about true love.

When I fly now and as I did so many times in the past, I look out beyond my wing where he always was when I needed some assurance that all was fine. There are so many trips left to take, and I know now how very special those trips with my best friend were. You know how you sometimes do not realize how very special someone is until they are gone. I will never find anyone else to replace him in my life. The friends of Bear Lake have lost a dear friend as we all have. Bob, we will always remember, miss and love you.

Your best buddy forever.



Who Is That Standing on Shores of Bear Lake?



1926 on Bear Lake!

L to R: Florine (Willsey) Juergensen, Walter (Buddy) Juergensen, and Lois (Juergensen) Sammons enjoy a day on Big Bear Lake about 1926.

Buddy and Lois Juergensen arrived in this area in 1920, living with their brother Harry and parents off Forest City Road. Florine Willsey was born in the Willsey home at the intersection of Rundle Road and Rose Avenue. Buddy and Florine met at Lockhart Elementary School, later married and lived most of their lives in the home off Forest City Road that Buddy's father built. They were the parents of Walt Juergensen who lives with his wife Anne on Big Bear Lake.

Update on Alum for Water Clarity and Carp for Weeds

Come to the General Meeting on March 10th to get up to date information on our plan to manage short and long term goals for keeping our clean lakes clean. We will have information on alum for managing water clarity and carp to manage hydrilla, the extremely invasive aquatic plant. We will discuss Lake Management plans for the future of our lakes for our children's children to enjoy.



Real Estate Watch

By Susan Burton, Realtor®

Call me if you have any questions (407-521-8212). There are many great opportunities to own lakefront properties. Please don't hesitate to contact me. This is the current information regarding Bear Lake properties:

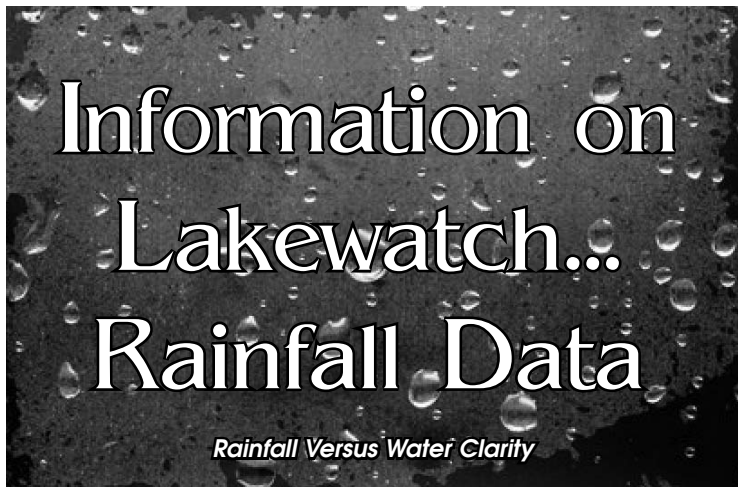
Active Listings

3050 Holliday Ave.....	\$799,000
3304 Holliday Ave.....	\$799,900
1411 Balmy Beach Dr	\$2,500,000
6007 Linned Beach Dr	\$599,900
6013 Linned Beach Dr	\$679,000

6165 Linned Beach Dr	\$1,392,000
6103 Linned Beach Dr	\$1,500,000
5802 Bear Lake Cir	\$640,000
9730 Bear Lake Rd	\$2,375,000

Sold Listings

6115 Linned Beach Dr	\$696,500
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The following Lakewatch data covers the last 10 months. Clarity level is the average of four locations on Big Bear Lake and three locations on Little Bear Lake and Cub Lake. Lake levels determined by surveyed elevation markers set on the lakes by Seminole County.

We are seeing pieces of hydrilla as well as broken pieces of eel grass floating up on our shorelines. What should we do?

- Rake it out and put it on your shrubbery, it is free fertilizer.
- Fragments of hydrilla can reproduce new plants, choking waterways.
- Broken off aquatic plants release nutrients into the water, pull them out, as algae loves to attach to them creating an ugly mass.
- The broken pieces of plants create more algae which makes our lakes green!
- Keep grass clippings out of the lakes. They also create nutrients for algae to feed on.

See the Top 10 Questions & Answers About Alum at www.blpa.net!

Bear Lake	Date	Rainfall	Clarity Level	Water Level (Above Sea Level)
	4/08	4-5/8"	13'	103.6-1/2
	5/08	11/16"	10'	102.9
	6/08	4-7/16"	9'	102.9
	7/08	9-7/8"	10'	103.3
	*8/08	4-5/8"	10'	103.2-1/2
	9/08	18-5/16"	6-1/2'	104.05
	10/08	7-3/4"	8'	103.5
	11/08	3/4"	9'	103.3-1/2
	12/08	2-1/4"	9-1/2'	103.4-1/2
1/09	3/8"	10-1/2'	103.2-1/2	
2/09	1-3/4"	14'	103.3-1/2	

Little Bear Lake	Date	Rainfall	Clarity Level	Water Level (Above Sea Level)
	4/08	4-5/8"	7-1/2'	103.7
	5/08	11/16"	5'	103.3
	6/08	4-7/16"	4'	103.6
	7/08	9-7/8"	3'	103.8
	**8/08	4-5/8"	5'	104.6
	9/08	18-5/16"	5'	104.5
	10/08	7-3/4"	5-1/2'	103.83
	11/08	3/4"	not available	not available
	12/08	2-1/4"	5'	103.8
1/09	3/8"	5-1/2'	103.73	
2/09	1-3/4"	6-1/2'	103.8	

Cub Lake	Date	Rainfall	Clarity Level	Water Level (Above Sea Level)
	4/08	4-5/8"	13'	100
	5/08	11/16"	11'	99.8
	6/08	4-7/16"	11'	99.9
	7/08	9-7/8"	11'	100.2
	**8/08	4-5/8"	6'	103.7
	9/08	18-5/16"	11'	101.7
	10/08	5"	—	—
	11/08	3/4"	11'	100.1
	12/08	2-1/4"	12'	100.1
1/09	3/8"	13.5'	100.2	
2/09	1-3/4"	not available	not available	

*Readings taken before Tropical Storm Fay (Bear Lake). **Readings taken after Tropical Storm Fay (Cub & Little Bear Lake).

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ARE YOU A CURRENT BLPA MEMBER? DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

Please join the BLPA so you can stay informed! The BLPA is sending current neighborhood crime alerts and monthly notices concerning our lakefront & area residents. Members on the email list are receiving these informative emails.

BLPA is expanding outreach to our members using email. Provide your email address for timely alerts and notifications concerning our lakes and neighborhood. Send your email address to Nancy Dunn (nancylynn@cfl.r.com) and mention BLPA Email List in the subject line of your email.



BLPA WANTS YOU TO JOIN OUR ORGANIZATION!

The mission of the Bear Lake Preservation Association is to provide environmental and civic stewardship for the Bear Lakes watershed. This is achieved through water quality monitoring, scientific understanding, public education, governmental intervention, and watershed improvements for the enhancement and preservation of the water quality and biological integrity of clean lakes. BLPA is committed to preserving the lakes and community to protect our lifestyle and property values. The BLPA Board of Directors invites you to join our organization and become involved in this effort. Be aware, get involved! Visit us at www.BLPA.net.

Membership Advantages:

- BLPA license tag;
- Lake preservation activities and ideas for residents;
- “Watchdog” challenges to encroachment by developers and government;
- Neighborhood social activities (i.e., Boat Parade);
- Monthly Lake Watch testing and analysis;
- Expert speakers on environmental topics such as lake management and water quality;
- Coordination of Neighborhood Watch efforts;
- Town hall forums for homeowners to express concerns regarding neighborhood projects;
- Liaison with the county on issues such as traffic, lake patrols and water run-off problems; and
- Members receive broadcast emails keeping them informed on happenings around our lakes such as crime reports, water management tips, etc.

**Please add your voice and financial support by joining this community enhancement group.
Get involved and do your part! We can't do it without YOU!**

New/Renewal Member * Bear Lake Preservation Association, Inc. *

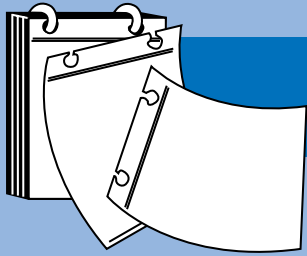
Name(s) of Homeowners: _____

Street Address: _____

City/St/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email address: _____

**Please mail this form to: BLPA, PO Box 162605, Altamonte Springs, FL 32716,
with your check in the amount of \$75 (Seniors \$35). Make checks payable to BLPA.**



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

BLPA March General Meeting & Elections

March 10, 2009 • 7:30 p.m.

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

Guest Speaker:

Larry Meddock, President of the Lake Gatlin Homeowners' Association, will speak with us about their projects to restore the lake's water quality including the results from the use of alum.

Calendar of Events

March 10..... General Membership Meeting & Elections, 7:30 p.m.

May 20..... Board of Directors Meeting

June 23..... General Membership Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

September 16..... Board of Directors Meeting

For committee meeting dates, please contact one of the Board members. The Ecology Committee meets the 3rd Thursday of each month.

www.blpa.net

What's Turning the Bear Lakes Green?



Warm temperatures at the end of November 2008 brought algae blooms to many Central Florida Lakes, including Little Bear and Bear Lakes. The University Of Florida LAKEWATCH team identified the algae from a sample they picked up for us as Microcystis, or Blue-Green Algae.



PO Box 162605
Altamonte Springs, FL 32716